

Our Dumb Animals.

"WE SPEAK FOR THOSE WHO



CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES."

"I would not enter on my list of friends,
Though graced with polished manners and fine sense,
Yet wanting sensibility, the man
Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm."— *Cooper*.

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"The eyes of all wait upon Thee; and Thou givest them their meat in due season.

"Thou openest Thine hand and satisfiest the desire of every living thing."—PSALM cxiv., 15, 16.

"Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them."—MATT. vi., 26.

A Plea for the Dumb.

Maker of earth and sea and sky,
Creation's Sovereign, Lord and King,
Who hung the starry worlds on high,
And formed alike the sparrow's wing,
Bless the dumb creatures of thy care,
And listen to their voiceless prayer.

For us they toil, for us they die,
These humble creatures God has made;
How shall we dare their rights deny,
On whom God's seal of love is laid?
Kindness to them is mercy's plea,
So deal with them as God with thee.

—The Sunny Side.

"Dumb."

I can hardly express to you how much I feel there is to be thought of, arising from the use of the word "dumb" as applied to animals. Dumb animals! What an immense exhortation that is to pity. It is a remarkable thing that this word dumb should have been so largely applied to animals, for, in reality, there are very few dumb animals. But, doubtless, the word is often used to convey a larger idea than that of dumbness, namely, the want of power in animals to convey by sound to mankind what they feel, or, perhaps, I should rather say the want of power in men to understand the meaning of the various sounds uttered by animals. But as regards those animals which are mostly dumb, such as the horse, which, except on rare occasions of extreme suffering, makes no sound at all, but only expresses pain by certain movements indicating pain—how tender we ought to be of them, and how observant of these movements, considering their dumbness. The human baby guides and governs us by its cries. In fact it will nearly rule a household by these cries, and woe would betide it, if it had not this power of making its afflictions known. It is a sad thing to reflect upon, that the animal, which has most to endure from man, is the one which has the least powers of protesting by noise against any of his evil treatment.—*Arthur Helps*.

To the Ladies.

We well remember that when the Massachusetts Society was started, the name which ought to have stood first in its Act of incorporation, and first on its board of directors, was omitted, because it was the name of a woman. We are glad that times have changed, and that now, at most of our directors' meetings, ladies are in the majority. How greatly our success as a society has been promoted by the many warm-hearted women who have so freely given to it both time and money, is well known to those who are connected with its management.

The great mother of all our societies, in England, has only begun to realize its possibilities since the formation of its "Ladies' Humane Educational Committee." From the heart of woman, largely came its paper, now circulating over the world; its prizes to the London schools; its appeal to the teachers of Great Britain; its change of the laws relating to transportation of animals; its denunciations of fox-hunting and pigeon-shooting; its persistent stirring up of parliament in regard to the atrocities of vivisection.

In the good time coming, when humane pictures shall hang in our school-rooms, and humane education find its way into all our schools, and boys shall be trained to help the weak and protect the defenceless, and men and animals shall be saved from cruelty, and wars shall cease, and peace shall reign, whoever writes the history of that grand result, will find it largely attributable to the growing influence and active, persistent work of woman. So much is simply introductory to what we now wish to say; viz., that in most of our towns and cities there are more or less ladies interested in the work we are trying to do.

We have agents in almost every town and city of this State, and they are doing a vast deal of good work without pay. But we cannot expect in towns where there is no organized public sentiment to sustain them, that they should be always willing on their personal responsibility

to prosecute those who may be able to do them great personal injury, and so thousands of cases of short feeding, improper shelter, cruel methods of slaughtering, and other abuses are permitted to continue, and boys, from lack of proper teaching, shoot useful birds, rob nests, crush toads, stone frogs, set steel-traps, and do numberless other acts of cruelty.

What is needed in every town and city, is an organized "Humane Committee," which may be composed of ladies and gentlemen, or ladies alone, which shall meet often to read and ascertain what is being done elsewhere, and to consider what ought to be done, and can be done, in their own city or town. A very simple constitution is sufficient. The following will answer:—

"We, the undersigned, hereby join and constitute the 'Humane Committee' of the town (or city) of _____, the objects of which shall be to prevent cruelty to animals by all proper means, and to prevent ALL cruelty by HUMANE EDUCATION. The officers shall be a president, secretary, treasurer and executive committee, elected annually, and we will meet as often as may be found convenient, to do what we can for the promotion of the before-named objects."

There is no objection to having as many of these committees in any town as there are churches. But even one, though composed of only half a dozen ladies, can do a vast deal of good. It will be known through the town, and all persons who abuse animals will feel that they are liable to be reported, and may be prosecuted. Agents of our society who might not like to incur the personal ill-will of offenders, will not hesitate to say that the "Humane Committee" require them to act; clergymen will not hesitate to say that they have been requested by the "Humane Committee" to preach on the subject. School-committee men and teachers, and Sunday-school teachers and editors will all help the work at the solicitation of the "Humane Committee"; and very soon humane information, pictures, songs, stories, and

perhaps prizes for compositions will begin to find their way into the schools. And if money is wanted, the ladies have not forgotten how to get up *fairs, concerts, tableaux, sewing circles, tea-parties, garden parties, etc*

We hope that some lady in every city and town, while reading this article, will determine that another week shall not pass without a "Humane Committee" in her city or town.

Another matter. The season has now arrived when many of our ladies will be going to the mountains and sea-shore, and other places of fashionable resort. They will meet there other ladies from all parts of the country. What a grand opportunity to sow seeds of kindness, which will spring up, it may be, in hundreds of places, to beautify and bless the world. Let every lady friend of ours who may visit mountain, sea-shore or watering place, during this summer, study and improve her opportunities, and so surely as "not a sparrow falls to the ground without his knowledge," so surely may she do work acceptable to God and beneficial to his lower creatures.

G. T. A.

Doings of Kindred Societies.

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES BY THE GEORGIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

The third annual distribution of prizes by the Georgia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, to the draymen and cartmen of the city, for the best-conditioned horses and mules, took place in front of the city hall yesterday afternoon. At 5 o'clock the street in front of the city hall was filled with drays. The committee on prizes consisted of Messrs. H. B. King, P. G. Burum, Maj. W. T. Garey, Frank Blaisdell, W. E. Platt. Judges acting with the committee: Messrs. Toler, Heggie, and Dr. Sponsler.

A notable feature in the display of horses was a magnificent six-horse team of the Southern Express Company. This team did not contend for the prizes, but was merely brought on the ground to show the splendid condition of the horses. There was also exhibited a very fine cow, half Alderney and half Brahmin, belonging to M. H. Dempsey. She is a beautiful animal and evidently receives the best of care.

The following members of the society were present: Miss King, Miss Cashin, Miss Martin, Maj. Garey, Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Rival, Mr. Burum, Mr. Blaisdell, Mr. W. E. Platt, and Mr. H. B. King.

The judges found great difficulty in awarding the prizes on account of the excellent condition of all the horses. It was not a question of which had been well cared for, but which had been the best looked after. This was hard to decide. The difference in the general appearance of the horses and mules now and at the first distribution of prizes was very generally noticed and commented upon. This state of things certainly speaks loudly for the good done by the society in this direction. There was an almost entire absence of sores upon the stock exhibited. The prizes were awarded as follows:—

Animals owned by Drivers.—1. S. Mims. 2. A. Pace. 3. T. O'Callahan. 4. Jake Beaty. 5. Sim Gleason. 6. Tinker Blair. 7. Taylor Somerfield. 8. Harvey Gordon. 9. Martin Van Buren. 10. Phil Sticker. 11. Gus Morris. 12. Tom Green. 13. L. Golightly. 14. R. Stewart. 15. J. Burns.

Not owned by Drivers.—1. Geo. Barnes. 2. Edward Scott. 3. Paul Adkinson.

Worst-conditioned Horses.—1. Tom Smith. 2. P. Gordon. 3. Sim Gleason. 4. P. Sticker. 5. Newton Allen.

One dollar was awarded to the driver of Mr. Burum's dray.

List of Prizes.—First class: For the best-conditioned and kept dray horse or mule, wagon horse or mule, cart horse or mule, owned by driver: 1. Bale of hay and \$5. 2. Dray saddle and sack

corn. 3. Sack of oats. 4. Sack of oats. 5. Bridle. 6. Sack of corn. 7. Sack of corn. 8. Sack of mixed feed. 9. Sack of bran. 10. Halter. 11. Curry-comb and brush. 12, 13, 14 and 15. Bits.

Second class: For the best-conditioned and kept dray, cart, or wagon horse or mule, not owned by driver: 1. Five dollars. 2. Three dollars. 3. Two dollars.

Third class: To the horse or mule showing most want of care and attention on part of owner: 1. One and a half dozen condition powders. 2. One dozen condition powders. 3. One-half dozen condition powders. 4. One-half dozen condition powders. 5. One-half dozen condition powders.

The prizes were presented to the successful drivers by Mr. H. B. King, with appropriate remarks.—*Chronicle and Constitution, Augusta, Ga., June 2, 1877.*

At a meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, held last night, a long and interesting letter was read from Thomas W. Palmer, president of the society, who is now in New York. He describes the offices of the New York society, where there are numerous stuffed animals which had lost their lives through the cruelty of their masters. There are also numerous paintings of other animals whose masters had been tried and convicted of cruelty to them, and beneath each is a short history of the case. Mr. Palmer then described his visit to Mr. Bergh, and tells how the latter gentleman became interested in the movement by witnessing the abuse of horses and donkeys in St. Petersburg, when secretary of legation there. He follows this by a history of the movement in New York under Mr. Bergh's management, which was a series of defeats until the Herald called a meeting of all the animals in Union Square, with Mr. Bergh in the chair, and each species laid its grievance and sufferings before the great animal benefactor. This woke the public up to the cruelty that was being daily inflicted on dumb brutes, and from that day the society has steadily advanced. It now has property to the amount of \$500,000, and every Monday the court of special sessions is given up to the trial of cases brought by the society. Mr. Palmer describes one of the sessions of this court, Mr. Bergh acting as prosecutor in person, and securing conviction in every case, and severe punishment in all but one, when the court suspended sentence at Mr. Bergh's request. In conclusion, Mr. Palmer gives a pen portrait of Mr. Bergh, very complimentary to that gentleman, and concludes his letter as follows: "I can conceive no better epitaph for him, or for any man, than this: he established the truth that animals have rights which mankind are bound to respect. I believe when history shall group the benefactors of the 19th century, as proud a place as any will be adjudged to the name of Henry Bergh."—*Detroit News, June 7.*

The Cleveland (Ohio) Society reports the following work for last year:—

There have been 1,033 cases of positive cruelty to animals noted and corrected by the agent, and reported by him, as follows: Horses sent home unfit for use, being sick and lame, 242; teams overloaded, 157; worthless horses condemned, killed, or sent to the glue factory, 31; teams found badly harnessed, 113; horses unshod or poorly shod, 90; teams overloaded and carrying their drivers, 26; fowls carried with legs tied and heads downward, 74; cows on the market unmilked, 22; teams suffering from want of water, 3; horses sent off the avenue, being overdriven, 25; boxes of poultry overcrowded, 63; dogs abused, 3; teams overdriven when loaded, 93; horses and mules found starving, 28; horses found without blankets and suffering from cold, 23. In the above cases, but 14 arrests have been made, and the offenders prosecuted and fined. More summary proceedings have been deemed necessary in dealing with that class of offenders known as cock-fighters, over 100 of whom have been arrested and fined during the year, through the instrumentality of the Society.

Operations of the Humane Society.

Superintendent Street reported at the meeting of the Humane Society yesterday afternoon, that eighteen cases of cruelty to animals had been attended to during the week previous. Two of these consisted in tying the legs of sheep and calves together, then throwing them into wagons and hauling them for miles over rough roads. Another was the working of a horse with a sore shoulder. There were also reported instances of extreme cruelty to stock on cars, by which some were killed and others seriously injured. In three cases of brutality to children, the offenders promised to do better. The society frequently receives information that its efforts in behalf of the little ones have caused material changes in a large number of families, and had a salutary effect in others.—*Pittsburg Com.*

PORTLAND (Me.) Society reports the work for the year:—

Three hundred and forty-nine cases investigated on complaint, and 355 without; 42 horses were killed; 215 complaints were for overloading horses; 9, tying calves' legs; 7, transporting fowls; 2, cock-fighting; 53, working disabled horses; 20, starving and neglecting horses.

THE Poughkeepsie Society reports fifteen cases of cruelty attended to during the first three months of the year, as follows:—

For cruel exposure and insufficient food, 2; cruel beating, 4; overloading, 2; using lame, sore, or disabled animals, 4; having animals not properly cared for, 2; abandoning animal, 1. Prosecutions, 5. Of these, one party was imprisoned twenty days, two gave bail for their appearance before the grand jury, one was discharged upon the correction of the matter complained of, and the case of one was pending April 1st. Several other minor cases have been investigated, and some corrections made where needed. Most of these cases have been attended to, and many of them discovered, by our agent, Augustus M. Quick, who has also destroyed, at the request of the owners, two horses and one or two smaller animals. This is the first time the Society has employed a regular agent, and we are satisfied that the increased work which has been accomplished, the additional number of cases reached, and the increased promptness in the remedy, prove it to have been a wise step. The society reminds the citizens that this increased work increases expenses materially, and that unless they have more paying members they cannot continue to do the work.

AT Green Bay, Wisconsin, the law is partially enforced, but the friends are waiting for the report of a committee, of which Senator Howe is chairman, to report a draft of articles of association in order to complete the organization of a society.

Stamford, Ct.

The annual meeting of the Stamford Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was held in the town hall building Saturday evening. The president, George L. Lownds, Esq., presented a report from which it appears that during the year the society has been in existence there have been twenty-two complaints made, nineteen of them for cruelty to horses, two to birds, and one to a dog. All these cases were investigated by officers of the society, and in some cases the cruelty was stopped, in some there was not evidence enough to warrant an arrest, and in others the parties acknowledged their cruelty and promised to stop it. The number of members has increased to about seventy, and the society is encouraged by the moral support of a growing and influential public sentiment.—*Advocate, June 4.*

"To Him no high, no low, no great, no small.
He builds, he bounds, connects and blesses all."

—Pope.

[From the Transcript.]

The Sparrow Vindicated.

A more thoroughly competent witness than Mr. John Galvin, our city forester, on the sparrow question, cannot well be imagined.

CITY HALL, BOSTON, April 23, 1877.

Dr. THOMAS M. BREWER.

DEAR SIR:—I am perfectly willing to answer all your questions frankly and fully. You are right in supposing that I am and have been familiar with the habits of the sparrow, even before their introduction. Since their coming to Boston my duties and those of my men have given us constant opportunities to notice what they do. Their introduction into Boston was immediately attended with great benefit, almost beyond all calculation. The trees on the Common were infested with a nasty yellow caterpillar, which destroyed the leaves and buds of the elms and other trees; and these insects increased very rapidly, in spite of all that my men could do to destroy them. And, at the South End, the elm trees were eaten every June by swarms of canker-worms. Both of these pests have been pretty nearly exterminated, and the trees, many of which would otherwise have died, have been saved.

The sparrow is still of great use. But for it these insects would return. And other pests would attack the trees. Last spring (1876) the buds of many of the larger elms, as they were opening, were attacked by a great many of a small kind of lice. The sparrows soon found them out and ate them greedily. Consequently the foliage, instead of drying up, as it would have done but for the sparrows, was never finer. My men could do nothing. They had no wings like the sparrow, who could cling to the buds and clean them one by one. Yet for all the good the sparrows were doing there were some, so prejudiced against it, and who can see no good but only harm in everything it does, who raised a hue and cry that the sparrows were eating the buds! Instead of that they were eating the bud-eaters; but instead of being thanked for the good they were doing, they were only abused. I believe that the wages of all my men would not compensate Boston for the loss of the sparrow.

In answer to your third question, I say without hesitation, the sparrows do not molest or interfere with any other bird. It does not trouble the robin or bluebird, or manifest any animosity against either. All summer long they are together, and it would be impossible for this to be done without my men or my noticing it, yet I never witnessed anything of the kind.

I have not noticed any decrease in the numbers of any kind of bird, but, on the contrary, a very marked increase of various kinds. The robins were more numerous on the Common last summer than ever before. The little chip-sparrow has become very numerous, and seems to be very fond of the sparrow, often feeding on the same bit of bread. The small martins have very greatly increased in numbers on account of the number of boxes. These they take possession of whenever they want one, and drive the sparrows away. Before the sparrows came there were no bluebirds at all. Now they are becoming quite common, and often treat the sparrows very badly, taking away from them their own boxes, and breaking up their nests. The sparrows of course show fight, but the bluebirds are always too strong for them. The writer in the Advertiser, in my opinion, is all wrong.

I am all in favor of the sparrows. I believe that they do no harm, but a great deal of good. Thousands of dollars would not pay the city for their loss, and I would be very sorry to see any thing done to prejudice people against them or permit their destruction.

[Signed] JOHN GALVIN, Supt.

"WHAT is the name of your cat, sir?" inquired a visitor. "His name was William," said the host, "until he had fits, and since then, we have called him Fitz William!"

A Petition.

"To the farmers, gardeners, fathers and mothers of the neighborhood, the humble petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:—

"That, for many years past, we have been subject to most cruel persecutions by unmerciful boys, who, in the spring-time, destroy our happiness by stealing our nests, and taking our eggs and young; and, in the winter, by chasing us from hedge to hedge with branches of trees, and knocking us down and killing us, so that there are very few of us left.

"Your petitioners also show that they cheer you with their song, they never touch your corn or crops, but live chiefly upon your enemies, the grub, the caterpillar, and the plant-louse, which destroy your gooseberries and currants, your cabbages and fruit-trees, and are now attacking your wheat, oats, and beans. We therefore humbly solicit your help; for, if you allow us all to be so cruelly destroyed, our kind Creator, who made us to enjoy our lives, and for a good purpose, will permit insects, unchecked, to increase, and destroy the produce of your fields and gardens.

"We remain, your true and best friends,

"COCK ROBIN.

CUDDY.

"JENNY WREN.

TOM TIT.

"BILLY BITER."

The above is the copy of a bill, in large type, which has recently been circulated in France. It is worthy of being read by every child in the nation.

Pigeon Colonies on the Piers.

The flocks of pigeons which make their homes in the covered piers along the North River are becoming an extensive community, with peculiar habits and characteristics. It is generally supposed that these pigeons have owners. This is not so, as they have multiplied from a few wild pigeons which settled in the eaves of the dock roofs. Pier No. 29 shelters the largest family of any of the West-side docks. Nine years ago, when this pier was built, a pair of wild pigeons made their home in the roof. Three hundred birds are the result of this settlement. Sailors and stevedores regard these birds with superstitious care, and on no account will permit them to be harmed. They feed on the scatterings of produce on the docks, and on food thrown them from the vessels moored to the piers. They visit the steamers regularly while they are in port, and are fed on board. It is said that they sight favorite ships when they are some distance off and fly out to meet them, and that they also appear to be aware of the sailing days of the steamers, flocking about them, and with a sagacious manner watching them until they depart. A number of these pier pigeons have broken wings, and a few hop about on one foot. These have been run over when the docks were crowded.—*New York Tribune*.

Preserve.

A writer in *Scribner's* says: "Destructive insects steal \$300,000,000 each year out of our national treasury. The insect bodies are threatening as much disaster to our food supply as the Goths' and Vandals' treatment to Europe, and the plague's treatment to Egypt centuries ago." This is precisely where insectivorous birds come in to preserve the balance of nature. The growth of insect pests may be temporarily beyond man's power of prevention, but it is a most enormous social folly to kill the animals which would assist us to preserve our crops, yet the very farmers are virulent and persistent bird destroyers, in order to protect a little fruit or grain, while for the frivolities of fashion millions are sacrificed, to say nothing of the numbers that are destroyed out of pure wantonness.—*Rod and Gun*.

'Tis well in deeds of good, though small, to thrive;

'Tis well some part of ill, though small, to cure;

'Tis well with onward, upward hope to strive;

Yet better and diviner to endure.

Elephantine Gambols.

Pursuant to announcement the five elephants of Sanger's British Managerie, connected with the London Circus, were conducted to the frog pond on the Common Friday forenoon at 10 o'clock, and given full liberties, their keeper, however, being near enough to them at all times to control them by his voice, which they recognized even amid the noise which the crowd made. The sides of the pond were lined with people four or five rows deep, and the elevations commanding the water were black with people. For about three-quarters of an hour the huge children played about in the water, showering each other occasionally with barrels of water which they drew up in their trunks, pulling at each other, jumping on each other's backs, wallowing, cantering, rolling or looking with apparent dull curiosity on the spectators. The phrase "elephantine gambols" may seem a little odd, but the beasts did play like kittens, and were wonderfully quick in their movements. Adults and juveniles all enjoyed the exhibition very much. But who in a democratic country don't enjoy anything that is free? There is one thing that may be said, and that is, the natural actions of these leviathans of the forest as they exhibited their habits before captivity, were fully as interesting as are their wonderful exhibitions under their trainer in the arena.—*Boston Transcript*.

A WRITER in "St. Nicholas" dredged the backs of his bees with flour as they were leaving the hives in the morning during a very dry time, doing this by a preconcerted arrangement with a friend who had a fine clover-field in bloom forty miles away. The friend wrote back directly, "There are plenty of your white-jacket bees here in the clover."

Two men, cutting wood near San Jose, Cal., the other day, noticed for several days that a number of birds remained constantly upon a tree near them, and upon cutting down the tree they discovered in a limb a cavity, some two feet in length and with a small aperture, in which were two rather large birds. Neither of them were able to fly, having evidently never been out of their imprisonment. How they came inside is a question, though it is probable that the mother-bird was small, and, though able to make her nest in the hollow of the tree and rear her young, could not extricate them, and they did not gain strength enough to help themselves until the hollow had so closed that escape was impossible. Those who examined the birds think they are about two years old. They had been fed from their birth by their bird-fellows through the aperture in the limb of the tree.—*Journal, June 6*.

Deer-Hounding—Protest.

A CARD, signed by thirty-seven citizens of Mohawk Valley, Oregon, appears in the "Salem Willamette," saying:—

"We do hereby declare and agree that we will discountenance hounding in our vicinity; we consider it our duty to protect the deer from being driven off or destroyed by the hounds. We further declare that we will not knowingly permit any person or persons to camp on our premises with the intention of hounding; nor to hound in our grain fields or enclosures. Therefore, we respectfully ask those living outside of the valley to get rid of their hounds or keep them from running."

THE other day a Burlington boy started to carry home a yellow-jacket's nest to tie to the dog's tail to have some fun. He didn't get the nest all the way home, as it became so heavy he couldn't carry it, but he succeeded in coaxing most of the yellow-jackets to accompany him the whole distance, and they supplied him with so much amusement that he hasn't once thought of fun or the dog since, and doesn't think he ever will.—*Hawkeye*.

Our Dumb Animals.

Boston, July, 1877.

Notice.

The office of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has been removed to 96 Tremont Street, corner of Montgomery Place. No. 96 is up stairs, in the first block north of Horticultural Hall. All friends of the cause are cordially invited to call there whenever it may suit their convenience. Some one may be always found there between 9 A. M. and 6 P. M. each day. The documents issued by the Society can always be had, and all business relating to "Our Dumb Animals" can be done there.

"Animals, Only?"

Yes, our work is for the protection of animals only, if the question implies antagonism between man and animals. Of course there is no such opposition. All cruelty is from one root, and it were impossible to educate a man to be merciful to his beasts without his becoming more and more merciful with his own kind. In the order of time, the ruler, under whatever name, had at first the chief, if not the only serious consideration from his fellow-man. Governments were formed, and the statute-books were filled with laws which related to the ruling man and classes. Afterwards, but separated by long intervals, came laws for the protection of women, for servants and for strangers. It will not be claimed that in any one of these directions the full duty of society to its weaker members has been fulfilled; but there are now such mighty forces on their side, that their complete protection, so far as law can protect, is only a question of time.

And while we of the Societies for the Protection of Animals go as far as he who goes farthest in securing all the rights of every human being, we recognize, at this time, solemn duties to creatures more dependent, and, as an organization, we find enough to do in their behalf. And what has been done has shown more clearly how much yet remains.

As an illustration, there cannot be found a community where there is not neglect and abuse of the horse. It is a crime not confined to any class, but is most conspicuous and most common among the comparatively poor. Many peddlers of fish and fruits; contractors; *small farmers*, in remote neighborhoods, and others, regularly buy the old lame and broken-down animals, because cheap; but in stables where horses are kept to let, and in horse car establishments, also, there have painful instances, from time to time, come to the knowledge of such as have occasion to know the facts. Who, then, we might ask, are to plead for, and who use the weapons the law has made for the defence of the defenceless, if not those whose hearts have been touched by their innocent sufferings? And having learned the necessity of this work, who could be more cruel than they if they held back from doing it? Of course they well know that while acting for "animals only," as a society, they are working effectually for all humane causes in man's behalf, because the sympathy and thoughtful consideration for inferior races from which it sprung was, simply, a new fruit of the same spirit which had taught man before to care for the poor, the oppressed, and the suffering of his own race.

"Legions of Honor."

Our readers will find in another column, an interesting account of societies organized in the boys' schools of Philadelphia, for the protection of animals, and the great good they have accomplished; also that some five hundred similar societies have been recently formed in the schools of France, under the encouragement and direction of the "Minister of Public Instruction," and that much good is being accomplished by them there.

Last year, Mr. Angell suggested organizations among the children of our Public Schools, upon a broader basis. He would have "Legions of Honor" formed, each member of which should be pledged,

- 1st. To speak no falsehood.
- 2d. To use no profane language.
- 3d. To show respect to the aged.

4th. To protect from unnecessary cruelty, so far as possible, all that are unable to protect themselves, whether human beings or dumb beasts.

5th. To endeavor at all times to maintain the right.

The Teacher in each case to be *Commander*, with power to direct the appointment or election of subordinate officers. Members to be called "Knights" or "Ladies" of "The Legion of Honor," each to receive a badge on which shall be inscribed "Legion of Honor," with the motto of "Reverence, Kindness, Courage." Violation of obligation to be cause of expulsion.

Meetings once a month, or oftener, for recitations, songs, addresses, etc. At graduation from school, each who has kept the obligations, to receive a diploma signed perhaps by a "grand commander," elected by all the others, bearing the great seal of "The Legion," and countersigned by the commander of the particular "Legion" to which the scholar belonged.

Older people, for good service rendered, may be elected "Honorary" members of "The Legion of Honor."

During the coming year Mr. Angell will, so far as practicable, gratuitously visit the "High Schools" of the State, where most encouragement is given, to aid in establishing these "Legions." In the meantime he will be ready to address gratuitously, teachers, clergymen, and other influential audiences upon the importance of this movement.

There is no reason why, under these broader organizations, we may not reap greater benefits than have been obtained in France or Pennsylvania. All who would feel it a privilege to aid, are invited to correspond directly with Geo. T. Angell, President, or A. Firth, Secretary of the Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Efforts are being made to purify and elevate the government. Let men and women unite in all measures which tend to purify and elevate the nation through its youth, and in this work let Massachusetts lead and not follow.

The need of increased effort in the schools may be seen from the fact recently published that out of about twelve hundred convicts in the Auburn, N. Y., state prison, nearly four hundred have received a full "high school" education.

Affection.

A distinguished actor recently left Boston for an excursion in the country, with his dog as companion. While away, the latter died. When the actor again entered his hotel here, he had its body in his arms! "I would not have taken for it, when living, any sum of money," he said. Nor was he willing to leave its body in a spot where it could not be known and frequented.

THE JUNE MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, was held in the Society's new rooms, No. 96 Tremont Street, on Wednesday the 20th. Present: Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Homans, Miss Wigglesworth and Mrs. Roberts, and Messrs. Angell, Reed and Firth.

The Secretary's Report for May was read and referred to the finance committee.

It was made known that some members desired to offer prizes, as follows: A lady to draw attention to the continued abuses in cattle transportation over the railroads, and to incite to action for their removal. To this end the Society is now authorized to offer a reward of five hundred dollars to any person who shall do most in lessening the suffering during the year, to end July 1, 1878. The exact terms of the offer will be made known hereafter, and, also, the names of the gentlemen to make the award.

Other members authorize the Society to offer two prizes of fifty dollars each, or gold medals of the same value—the winners of the prizes to choose between them—to two of the scholars in the public schools of Massachusetts, who shall do the most among their fellow-scholars, in the year 1877, to prevent cruelty to animals. The terms and names of the judges to be published hereafter.

It was unanimously voted to elect Joseph B. Glover, Esq., a director of the Society.

Voted, That a free offer be made to all agents of the Society in the July number of *Our Dumb Animals*, of extra copies of former numbers of said paper, until the 10th of August next, provided that each will personally see to their proper distribution, and provided they will send to the Society's office for them.

Voted, That hereafter, and until further notice, five thousand copies of each number of *Our Dumb Animals* be published.

Voted, That a bound copy of each volume of *Our Dumb Animals* be put at the disposal of each Director of the Society.

A conversation was had in regard to issuing a placard inviting the public to stop horse cars only at street crossings, and action upon the subject was left in the discretion of the Secretary.

It was understood that the business of the Society can be done for the present without room No. 7, and that the finance committee will rent the same.

The Secretary stated that one of the Philadelphia scoops for taking up stray dogs in the streets, and used there by the police, had been ordered, and is now expected.

The Birds.

A gentleman of this city saw recently several Bobolinks ready to be cooked! Remembering that this bird is our sweetest singer, and a universal favorite because of the beauty of its plumage, we had a right to suppose it was safe from such plunderers of the air. And, especially, when it offers so little to the gourmand, and is in its breeding season. Such wanton destruction would shame a wild Indian!

It is the "unnatural destroyers with the gun," as a correspondent has described them, who need most the attention of the lovers of birds.

*Woman's Branch of the Pennsylvania Society,
P. C. A.*

In the foremost rank of our American Societies deservedly stands that which modestly claims to be only a "Branch" of the Pennsylvania Society.

It employs four agents, has three gentlemen "learned in the law" as its legal counsel, and through its active president, Mrs. Richard P. White, and board of officers, composed of many prominent Philadelphia ladies, has done some of the best work which has been done in this country. It is a pleasure to look over its annual reports, from the last of which, just received, we find that during the past year it has convicted sixty-seven persons of cruelty; received 3,504 stray dogs into its shelter; attempted to obtain a law regulating the transportation of animals; corresponded in relation to vivisection with Frances Power Cobbe, the Countess Baldelli, and the Earl of Shaftsbury; petitioned the legislature to pass an act regulating the number of passengers on horse cars; published appeals to Philadelphia ladies to stop horse cars only at crossings; held a "Fair"; received during the year \$8,648.48, and expended \$7,241.92.

The report gives an interesting account of the manner in which stray dogs are captured with "bell-shaped nets" and of the merciful method of killing those which cannot be better disposed of, by the use of carbonic acid gas.

With the report, is published a most interesting address of Miss Frances Power Cobbe, on vivisection, citing the great names in surgery who have opposed it.

Then follows a report by Mrs. Chas. Willing, a vice-president of the Society, on "Systematic Education for the Humane Treatment of Animals," which we think of so much interest, that we publish it almost entire.

**SYSTEMATIC EDUCATION FOR THE HUMANE TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS.**

The work of systematic education for the humane treatment of animals having been commenced by the Woman's Branch of the Pennsylvania S. P. C. A. in 1874, has every year become more assured and satisfactory. The Juvenile "Society for the Protection of Animals," first established during that year in boys' public grammar schools, has now its branches in five schools, and about 2,000 boys have been enrolled in its ranks. The principal of each school is the president of each branch society, and occasional meetings are held during school hours for reading articles in regard to the treatment, nature and intelligence of animals.

It is interesting to observe that, whereas at first a few boys in certain schools declined receiving the badge, almost every boy in every school now desires one, and that the society continually increases in favor. It is fortunate also in retaining the unabated interest of its first members. The boys who have left the grammar schools and are now on the threshold of manhood, attend the meetings of the S. P. A. in their former schools, address their young comrades, recite appropriate poems, and read interesting and useful articles, thus animating the younger members of the society to renewed zeal. Boys who have passed from their respective grammar schools into the high school are doing faithful and manly service in this way. They carefully prepare selections from the reports of the older societies, articles on cattle transportation, on the check-rein, the wanton destruction of birds and other abuses, as well as anecdotes of animal sagacity and appropriate poems for recitation. Certain boys of the higher

classes in the school take part with their former comrades in the reading and recitation, and the assembled school listens with entire interest and sympathy. The principal usually adds a few words at the conclusion, and music from one of the boys ends the meeting. A great deal of information is given during the hour, a warm interest in the cause is created, and no boy who is present at one of these meetings can ever be thoughtlessly or ignorantly cruel hereafter.

When the recent state fair, held by the ladies of the S. P. C. A., was approaching, the high school members of the S. P. A. requested that a table at the fair should be assigned to the boys of the juvenile society, and that the schools should furnish it by their work and gifts. On this suggestion being made to the schools, it met with warm acceptance, and both boys' and girls' schools sent their carved work, their paper work, and their wool work, with purchased gifts of all descriptions, and contributions poured in continually every day of the fair for the boys' table. It was tended by fourteen boys, who came faithfully in their appointed turns every afternoon and evening during the nine days that the fair continued, and kept their accounts with admirable accuracy. The result of their sales was \$105, which is invested as a fund for the furnishing of a boys' reading-room, hereafter to be provided for the young members of the Society for the Protection of Animals, and which is to contain all the books, periodicals and newspapers relating to this subject which their means can supply.

In order to unite pleasure with their work, a banner and certain insignia for the young officers are given in every school where a branch of the S. P. A. exists, and every boy wears a small badge—a silver-plated horse's head—as a visible token of his union with the society, and a reminder that he is to avoid cruelty and practice active kindness. The boys are occasionally addressed in their schools on the importance of kindness to speechless animals, as well as to everything that is dependent on their care. The twofold duty of *reverence* and *compassion* is strongly enjoined on them, and the necessity of *moral courage* for the steadfast practice of both, and they are reminded that each member of the society must constantly try to exemplify the words of its motto, "Reverence, Kindness, Courage."

Mr. Angell of Boston, not long ago, in one of the journals of that city, alluded to this young society as "a new order of chivalry," and expressed his earnest wish for the establishment of a similar juvenile association in Boston. In a letter from Paris, during 1869, he prophesied the existence of such a society, which should be a "Legion of Honor," which should award its cross as a prize to youths distinguished by humanity, and which should hang its pictures and its mottoes on the walls of every school-room. In France his prophecy has been already fulfilled. By the last "Bulletin de la Société Protectrice" we learn that about *five hundred* juvenile societies for the protection of animals exist in the schools of France, under the fostering care of the Minister of Public Instruction, with boy officers, and meetings in school like our own.

Our great hope lies in the humane education of the boys of our public schools, and it is believed that by means of these juvenile societies a knowledge of the structure, habits and needs of the lower animals, and of the laws that should govern our relations to them, can be more widely given, and with far less labor and expense than it could be furnished otherwise, and that by enlisting thus large numbers of boys on the side of kindness and protection, cruelty will be more effectually diminished than it can be in any other way. The young members of the Society for the Protection of Animals learn from the articles selected and read by boys in their meetings of great public wrongs. They hear of the wholesale destruction of insect-eating birds on our prairies, which has led to the subsequent plague of grain-destroying insects, and of the barbarities practised on cattle transported from

the West in trains for the food of our sea-board cities, by which the health of whole communities is endangered. Most of them are old enough to listen and reflect, and to resolve that when they have the power to vote they will use it to remedy abuses, and to protect the defenceless. They already do countless acts of kindness in rescuing lost, sick and injured animals, and taking them to the refuge provided by the society. Their interest awakens that of comrades in other schools.

The expense of establishing each of these branch societies, and furnishing it with its banner, badges and the necessary newspapers and books for circulation among its members, is \$45, and the ladies of the S. P. C. A. earnestly ask for means to carry on this educational work. The color of the banner gives the name of each branch society, and those already existing are the following:—

Blue Banner—Boys of the Locust Street Grammar School.
Rose " " " Horace Binney "
Lilac " " " Newton "
Scarlet " " " North-west "
Gold " " " Keystone "

When a large number of schools shall have been enrolled, the colors, united in one flag, will form a Rainbow Banner for the "Boys' Society for the Protection of Animals."

R. T. WILLING.

MAY 15, 1877.

Cock and Dog Fights.

With the law against these brutal spectacles, and the strong sentiment against them in this State generally, it should be easy, not only to repress them, but to prevent the desire to see them from taking wider root among us. It is well, however, to bear in mind that besides a small class of our native population, there are large numbers of men here who were born and reared where such sights were classed among "sports" and "amusements." Of course the habits and tastes formed by such an education were not changed by crossing the ocean. And we have no right to be surprised if they show themselves whenever occasion offers.

Let there be indifference in the public mind in regard to such exhibitions; or cowardice on the part of officers when called to act for their suppression; or hesitation on the part of justices in enforcing the penalties attached to the offences, and we shall find ere-long a formidable opinion behind the offenders and their cruelties. There ought, then, to be prompt and resolute action to suppress every such fight between animals. If, for any reason, you cannot move against them, send the proof to this office, and our officers will act without delay or compromise.

The Law.

The law of March 31, 1877, for the Protection of Birds, provides that whoever takes or kills certain birds at any season of the year, or destroys or disturbs the nests or eggs of any undomesticated birds, except the nests of birds of prey, or crows, shall forfeit for every such offence ten dollars. And the possession by any person of the birds referred to, shall be *prima facie* evidence to convict under the act. All our singing birds are protected by this law. We hope to hear of its enforcement against such persons as are selling them either for food, or for their plumage, or in cages.

THE given name of our late secretary is Frank, and not Francis, as we wrote in the June number. It should have been, in full, Frank B. Fay, Esq., whose address continues to be 186 Washington Street, Boston.

Extra Numbers of "Our Dumb Animals."

We have on hand from former issues, copies which the directors desire to have circulated. Agents of our Society in the several towns, and others interested in our work who will undertake to put them among the scholars of the district and Sunday schools where they will be read, are invited to aid in this work. Packages of one hundred or less may be had at 96 Tremont Street by such persons, without expense. This offer will hold until the 10th of August.

Music.

As this number of our paper will be issued before July we have given a piece of music suitable for national celebrations on the 4th, and invite attention to it. We add, also, that its early issue will prevent our receipts in June appearing until August.

Prizes.

In our August number we expect to announce the exact terms for the prizes referred to in the report of the directors' meeting in another column, and in the meantime we hope to hear from friends about the "Legion of Honor."

A COMMUNICATION in the "Medical and Surgical Journal" of June 14, from Dr. Aaron Young of Boston, says: "The fact is, we have been in the dark ever since the disease [hydrophobia] was known, and we may as well lay the present system aside. . . . When dogs are humanely treated, both sexes are equally spared."

He lived in Brazil eleven years and never heard of a case of hydrophobia. A year's residence on the island gave him no information of the disease in Newfoundland. He would have the dog carefully observed when suffering from the disease, and have a suitable reward or prize offered to members of the Massachusetts Medical Society. "In case of a person bitten by a mad dog, I would saturate the wound with our best antiseptics, and keep applying them by means of saturated compresses until healed. . . . The aim is to mollify the poison or eradicate it from the system, and the use of antiseptics, as we understand their action, is a common-sense way of treating hydrophobia or any other disease produced by the absorption of poison."

AMERICAN CATTLE MARKETS.—In order to estimate aright the capabilities of America for supplying us with meat, their markets must be taken into consideration. Chicago may very properly be described as the cattle market of the United States. The supplies at this market on the 27th and 28th of February, and the 1st of March, consisted of 6,668, 7,087, and 4,854 head of stock each day respectively, or a total of 18,609 for the three days. This is said to be the largest supply ever sent to the market in three consecutive days. It may be interesting to compare these figures with those of our own London market. On Monday last there were 2,700 beasts in the Metropolitan cattle market, and this was considered a pretty fair supply; and at the great Christmas market on the 11th of December, 1876, there were only 7,020 head of cattle, or 67 animals less than the number exposed for sale in the Chicago market on the 28th of February.—*London Times*.

ALL reforms have to pass through three stages; viz., ridicule, argument, adoption.—*John Stuart Mill*.

The Police in a Quandary.

THE EXCITEMENT LAST EVENING IN THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN ON THE SUBJECT OF DOG KILLING—PEREMPTORY ORDER FROM THE MAYOR—THE CHIEF PUZZLED.

We can give but a faint idea of the strong excitement created last evening in the board of aldermen, caused by the killing of dogs in rear of the city hall during the deliberations of the chamber. As the dogs would howl with pain and terror, when the clubs of the policemen showered blow after blow on their heads, the sensibilities of the members were strongly affected. For a few minutes there was some confusion in parliamentary management, the only object being to put an immediate stop to the horrible sounds. Motion after motion was made with rapidity, and while one of the members was speaking, a dog howled so loudly that another member begged that there might be an immediate adjournment. Another said, "Wait till they kill this dog," referring to the one then undergoing the process. The mayor sent a messenger to stop the killing at once. The police were delighted with this order. They had killed seven, and were sick of the whole business. Later in the evening, the chief of the police made some remarks. He said it was not a pleasant duty which the ordinance just passed had placed upon the police; but law was law, and it said the police were to kill the dogs. No appropriation had been made for any contrivance for a more humane way of killing. The dogs ought to be put in a cage and drowned. He did not know what to do. The ordinance made it obligatory on the police to kill the dogs, while the order of the mayor forbids the killing. What could he do?

The pounding of the clubs on the dogs, together with the shooting aroused all the neighborhood for blocks around the city hall. Mr. Foster, who lives in Hall's Block, on Orange Street, visited the police office and bitterly complained of the horrible disturbance created by the dog slaughtering. What will now be done about the matter we do not know. In the board of aldermen Mr. Stetson vehemently characterized the present treatment of dogs as an outrage on all decency, and in this opinion other members excitedly expressed concurrence.—*New Haven Journal and Courier*, June 5, 1877.

A DOG FIREMAN.—The Hook and Ladder Company of this city have a dog called "Danger," who is a remarkable instance of canine sagacity. He is kept some distance from the truck-house, down Market Street, but at the first stroke of the alarm-bell he is off for the truck, and usually reaches it before it is drawn from the house. The speed at which he goes up Market Street is something to be admired. Those living along the street always hear, after the second or third tap of the bell, the rush of his feet along the pavement. He is as regular at a fire as any other member, and if his name was called at roll-call there would never be found an absent check against it.—*Elmira (N. Y.) Advertiser*.

A Sagacious Dog.

At the Atlanta General Passenger Depot one day in October, a blind man was standing, leaning against the wall outside of Captain Ballard's office; his baggage was lying inside the office until the train should leave on which the blind man was to go. The dog stood for an hour in a position where he could observe both his master and his master's baggage. A gentleman noticing the glances of the dog towards the baggage, walked forward and pretended to be lifting up a valise; the watchful dog went towards him and growled as if to say, "Don't touch this, sir." When the intruder left the baggage the dog left also; but when he returned to the baggage to see if the dog really was watching it, the little animal went to it also and repeated his growling. The same was tried by another gentleman with the same result, the dog showing in each instance his watchfulness over his blind master's property. The value of this animal to his master cannot be estimated too highly.

FIRE!—A few nights ago, Michael Gleason and his household, living in an interior New York town, repaired to bed, with every appearance of having their usual quiet night's repose. In the yard their dog had his usual place. During the night Mr. Gleason's daughter was awakened by the loud barking of the dog, and frequent thumps of a heavy body against the back door of the house. Arousing her father, the latter quickly proceeded to an examination. On opening a door of a room where there was a stove, smoke and flames burst forth, but the latter was soon extinguished. The fire had caught from the stove; the flames or smoke had attracted the dog's attention, and, like a faithful watchman, he gave the alarm, yelling "fire," and throwing himself against the door, with full as much enthusiasm as the boys "who run with the machine." Instances of canine sagacity equalling this are very common, but they are not often demonstrated in this way.

Treat Him First.

If you hire a horse at a livery stable you ought to treat him as if he were your own. If you drive him ten miles, you ought not to attend to your own wants until you see him properly cared for. If an honest man, you will remember that you are under a twofold obligation to that animal—an obligation to its owner, and an obligation to the animal. You are the debtor of both, and though you pay the price of the horse, yet no money can release you from the duty and moral claim involved in the bargain between yourself and the owner.

To neglect the poor speechless beast, that cannot appeal in your tongue to the commiseration of a passer-by, is simply unpardonable, and the man who is guilty of such neglect is worse than a man. The arrant infidelity of Balaam and his sordid love of money, are secondary crimes compared with his brutal abuse of the ass which he rode, and the Lord wrought a miracle to secure a loud remonstrance. We have but one instance in the whole Bible of a dumb animal speaking, and the miracle was wrought to condemn the sin of cruelty to animals.—*Rev. Dr. Irvine*.

Prairie-Dog Village.

Four hundred and thirty-five miles west of Omaha is situated the great Prairie-Dog City, one of the largest settlements on the line of the Union Pacific Railroad. Several hundred acres each side of the track, have been taken up by the sagacious little prairie-dogs, and there they have made their homes, and that without buying one lot from the company, or as much as saying, "By your leave." The dwellings consist of little mounds, from a foot to eighteen inches in height, raised by the dirt excavated by their burrows. On the approach of a train, the little inhabitants can be seen scampering for their homes. Arrived there, they squat upon their hams or stand upon their hind feet at the entrance—a hole in the top—barking at the train as it passes. Should any one venture too near, down they go, and their city is as silent as the "city of the dead." It is said that the opening in the top leads to a subterranean chamber, connecting with the next dwelling, and so on through the settlement; but this is a mistake.

The prairie-dog is of a sandy-brown color, and about the size of a large gray squirrel. In their nest, living with them, are found the owl and rattlesnake, though whether welcome or not is uncertain. He lives upon grasses and roots, and is generally fat, and is by some, Mexicans especially, considered good eating, as his flesh is sweet and tender, though rather greasy. Wolves prey on the little fellows, and may be seen sneaking near the town, hoping, by chance, to pick up some straggler. But the dogs are not easily caught. Some one is always on the lookout for danger, and gives the alarm on the first intimation of trouble. Then away they all scamper to their holes.—*Fancier's Journal*.

[Correspondence.]

MERIAM PACKING COMPANY, }
FULTON, ARKANSAS COUNTY, TEXAS. }

GEORGE T. ANGELL, Esq.

DEAR SIR:—Mr. George O. Sanborn has forwarded to me your note to him of the 20th inst., requesting me to answer it. I comply most cheerfully, and only regret that I cannot report the absence of all brutality and cruelty in the handling of cattle.

Texas cattle are wild and desperate, made so, in part, by the circumstances that surround them, but in a great degree by the rough handling they receive from the first branding through herding, penning and sending off to market. There are too many cattle and too few owners to allow of guiding them by kind words and acts, and this method is seldom, if ever, attempted. It is an object to handle cattle with the greatest despatch, and at the least possible cost; consequently they are driven by men on horses with a rush and a scream, something like an Indian war-whoop. This treatment alarms, and often drives them to desperation. Not unfrequently they stampede, breaking down the strong fence of the corral and levelling whatever else comes in their way. It is painful to witness the penning, inspecting and branding of Texas cattle. No mercy is shown them. The fact that they have feeling and can suffer is not, apparently, thought of.

Tens of thousands of neat-stock have died in this State this winter, on account of cold weather and the scarcity of grass and water. There is culpable neglect of stock all over the State. In searching for water, both on the open prairies, and in pastures, cattle become bogged, or mired, at pools of water, and are allowed to remain until death comes to their relief, which may be one or even two weeks.

Cattle have an instinctive dread of blood and the killing-pen. They are stubborn, and often resist the efforts of the butchers striving to make them go into it. Sometimes they are savage and brim full of fight.

It requires forbearance and patience to manage them. These virtues are not, generally, characteristic of the men engaged in slaughtering. On the contrary, they are apt to lose their temper and reason, and fall to punching, beating and jamming the poor beves in a most cruel manner, frequently doing serious damage to the hides and meat. Right here, perhaps, reform is needed more than anywhere else. Great care should be taken to so arrange the driveway as to facilitate the driving in of the cattle, and, also, to keep the pen free from blood.

You ask in regard to the method of killing practised by the Meriam Packing Company. First, the cattle are driven into small pens adjacent to the dressing-beds. These pens have two gateways; one through which the cattle are driven in, the other opposite, through which they are drawn out. Both have sliding gates. Over the pens is built a plank walk, upon which a man goes with a long-handled spear, and when the cattle are driven in, without any warning to them, he strikes the blade into the spinal cord just behind the horns, dropping the animal instantly, and completely paralyzing it. It is then drawn into the slaughter-room to the blood gutter, about eight feet, by a windlass. The blood flows directly into the gutter, and down to a tank below. Sometimes it is necessary to tap the beeve on the head before taking him to the gutter. No blood of any amount is left on the floor. The killing-pen is kept clean, never attempting to drive animals in until the blood on the floor, if there should be any, is removed. The striker very soon becomes expert in the use of the spear, and rarely misses his mark.

Fully sympathizing with the object your society is striving to accomplish, I remain, most truly yours,
J. N. MERIAM.

Thou must endure, yet loving all the while;
Alone, yet never separate from thy kind;
Meet every frailty with a tender smile,
Though to no possible depth of evil blind.

—Lord Houghton.

From Correspondents.

"The 'Transcript' has a communication to the effect that cats destroy so many birds they should be killed, and challenging boys to bring in their skins. As though boys were not too busy already in torturing and destroying cats! If the birds could speak, they would probably say that a reward offered to all boydom to refrain from shooting birds would be much more satisfactory. I assert as one who knows and has lived in a garden filled with birds and cats, that an ordinary cat very seldom catches a bird, however desperate may be her efforts.

"All animals may as well be annihilated at once for preying upon one another, as to rouse this foolish death-cry against any one species. Why not begin with the unnatural destroyers who kill the birds in wanton sport, with their guns and stones?"

FROM MAINE.

"We are doing a good business here. The Society has now in its treasury — dollars, being the amount of fines received, and it has voted to expend half of its funds for copies of 'Our Dumb Animals.' The papers formerly sent here were ordered by myself and circulated by me to awaken an interest in the cause."

FROM STATE OF NEW YORK.

"Enclosed are five dollars for subscriptions to 'Dumb Animals,' for our Sunday school. I do not know how I can help the cause more, with that amount of money."

From Agents.

"The Board of Health seemed a little nettled that I wrote you instead of informing them, but I told them our Society was prompt, and it was hardly worth while to wait a week for orders from them."

"The selectmen have ordered all dogs to be muzzled. Some that have been act as though they were mad, rushing through the streets."

"The justice said half the fine went to the State and the other half to the Society. If this were wrong, the justice was not posted. As to expenses, I make no charge. You are welcome to my services."

We refer all inquirers to chap. 344 of laws of 1869, sect. 7, to learn destination of fines, resulting from the complaint or information of any of our officers or agents. They shall inure and be paid over to said Society."—[Ed.]

"The people around here are getting waked up, and I hope you will have more complaints. When the stock is in condition to sell, I shall tell the people here that the Society will surely attend to all during the coming winter who fail in proper care of their stock. They shall know that the Society means business."

War.

We have heard some concern expressed, privately, lest there may be war between the societies for the protection of children and animals! Even Krupp guns were named! The former, it was said, propose to defend the children from mad dogs, and the latter to save the dogs! As, however, our society has never taken mad dogs under its protection it cannot be a party in their behalf. All it has to say in such cases is: "Be reasonably sure of the existence of the disease, and then kill mercifully." The joke would have a point if the semblance of a fact were in it.

At the annual meeting of the London Peace Society, resolutions were passed deprecating any national encouragement or assistance to Turkey, and approving the policy of neutrality adopted by the British government.

RECEIVE your thoughts as guests, and treat your desires like children.

Inventions and Improvements.

We ask attention to an invention for breastplates of carriage-harnesses. It consists of "an inflexible arch-piece, or bridge, curved outward and downward, to be inserted in the centre of the common breastplate, to relieve the windpipe and neck of the horse from pressure. The advantage of this will be seen at once. The breastplate in common use bears hard over the centre of the breast and obstructs respiration and the movement of the vital parts. The invention here described obviates this difficulty completely, and throws the draught wholly upon the shoulders. It has much of the advantage of the collar and hames, without the greater expense and inconvenience. It is simple, strong, and convenient. It will not get out of place nor gall the horse. The arch-piece, or bridge, can be inserted in any common breastplate, new or old. They are beautifully nickel-plated and form an attractive ornament to a harness."

It is the invention of Mr. William Dyer of Hyde Park, Mass. A sample of it may be seen in our office at 96 Tremont Street.

I THINK I would ask permission—if I had happened to be born in a city—to have the opportunity of passing all my vacations in the country, that I might learn the names of the trees and flowers and birds. We are, as a people, sadly ignorant of all accurate rural knowledge. We guess at many country things, but we are certain of very few.

It is inexcusable in a grown-up person, like my amiable neighbor Simpkins, who lives from May to November on a farm of sixty acres, in a beautiful wooded country, not to know a maple from a beech, or a bobolink from a catbird. He once handed me a bunch of pansies and called them violets, and on another occasion he mistook sweet peas for geraniums.—James T. Fields.

A Tame Wasp.

At the recent meeting of the British Association in Brighton, in the section of zoölogy and botany, Sir John Lubbock exhibited a tame wasp which had been in his possession for about three months, which he brought with him from the Pyrenees. The wasp was of a social kind, and he took it in his nest, formed of twenty-seven cells, in which there were fifteen eggs, and had the wasp been allowed to remain there, by this time there would have been quite a little colony of wasps. None of the eggs, however, came to maturity, and the wasp had laid no eggs since it has been in his possession. The wasp was now quite tame, though at first it was rather too ready with its sting. It now ate sugar from his hand and allowed him to stroke it. The wasp had every appearance of health and happiness; and although it enjoyed an 'outing' occasionally, it readily returned to its bottle, which it seemed to regard as a home. This was the first tame wasp kept by itself he had ever heard of.

A Church Restaurant.

There is probably only one church in the United States that has a thoroughly appointed kitchen in its basement. It is the Rev. Dr. Stephen H. Tyng's, on Madison Avenue and Forty-second Street. Mrs. McGoun is the presiding genius of this clean and well appointed anomaly in church auxiliaries. Every Sunday afternoon, under the auspices of the Andrew and Philip Society, she ladles out savory hot coffee and tea and stewed oysters, and serves great dishes of hot meat and bread for hundreds of hungry men. Every Tuesday afternoon, at the cost of the Mary and Martha Society, women are as bountifully fed.—Church Union.

MY NATIVE LAND.

Words by C.

From "The Sunny Side," by kind permission of Wm. A. Pond & Co.

From The German.

Vigorously.

1. I sing of thee, my na-tive land, In strength and beau-ty thou dost stand! The peo-ple's
 2. I sing, I sing thy broad do-main; Thy val-leys rich with gold-en grain; Thy might-y
 hope, the free-man's pride, Thou dost the na-tions on-ward guide; I sing the
 riv-ers, un-con-trolled; Thy loft-y hills that treas-ure hold; I sing the
 land that gave me birth, The fair-est land of all the earth!
 cit-ies' wealth and power,— A no-ble na-tion's pre-cious dower!

3.

I sing, I sing thy noble past,
 Oh! may its blessings ever last!
 And may our chiefest striving be
 To keep them for posterity:
 I sing thy trust in man and right,
 In reason's pow'r, and freedom's might!

4.

I sing, O God, thy mighty hand,
 Which still has kept my native land:
 The hand that made the nation free,
 And crowned it with prosperity;
 Oh, may its blessing ever rest
 Upon the land I love the best!

Little Things.

A cup of water timely brought,
 An offered easy-chair,
 A turning of the window blind,
 That all may feel the air.

An early flower unasked bestowed,
 A light and cautious tread,
 A voice to softest whispers hushed,
 To spare an aching head.

Oh, things like these, though little things,
 The purest love disclose,
 As fragrant atoms in the air
 Reveal the hidden rose.

The Iliad.

The gentleness of chivalry, properly so called, depends on the recognition of the order and awe of lower and loftier animal life, first clearly taught in the myth of Chiron, and in his bringing up of Jason, Æsculapius, and Achilles, but most perfectly by Homer, in the fable of the horses of Achilles, and the part assigned to them, in relation to the death of his friend, and in prophecy of his own. There is, perhaps, in all the "Iliad," nothing more deep in significance—there is nothing in all literature more perfect in human tenderness, and honor for the mystery of inferior life—than the verses that describe the sorrow of the divine horses at the death of Patroclus, and the comfort given them by the greatest of the gods.—*Ruskin.*

"SICK and in prison and ye visited me." Shall you or I receive such blessing? I know one who will. An overseer of a foundry, an aged man, with hoary hair, has spent his Sabbaths for many years in visiting the prisoners and the afflicted, in Manchester, New Bailey; not merely advising and comforting, but putting means into their power of regaining the virtue and the peace they had lost; becoming himself their guarantee in obtaining employment, and never deserting those who have once asked help of him.—*Mary Barton.*

Form of Bequest of Personal Property.

I give and bequeath to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the sum of ——— dollars, for the uses of said corporation.

Form of Devise of Real Property.

I give and devise unto the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (here insert the description of the property). To have and to hold the same unto the said corporation, its successors and assigns, forever.

Trustees.

In January last, the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals elected the following members of the Society as Trustees of its Permanent Fund: Samuel E. Sawyer, Geo. T. Angell and Abraham Firth.

Our Dumb Animals.

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